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CHIEF OF AMERICAN POSTAGE.

Mr. HAMILIN, (dem.) Cal., presented resolutions of the Legislature of Maine in relation to the wharves; in favor of reciprocal trade with British Northwestern Provinces; in favor of paying the French spoliation claims; and of repeal of duties on foreign liquors; also; and the abolition of spirit rations in the navy. All referred.

THE INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

was taken up. An amendment, to pay the Creek Indians half a million dollars, for land taken from them by General McIntosh, during the war of 1812, was debated. The bill was finally passed.

After a short executive session, the Senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON, MAY 22, 1864.

SPEAKER OF THE CHAPLAIN.

Rev. Mr. MILLIKEN, Chaplain, delivered the following prayer.—

O thou high and mighty ruler of the universe, we implore thy blessing to rest upon this House, as it is about to enter upon one of the most arduous and memorable struggles this country has ever known. Help every member to keep cool, calm and self-possessed, remembering the angry man gives his adversary the advantage. Assist every man to cooperate with their speaker and chairman in preserving order, recollecting the delicate character of the subject before us. Honor the deep interests of the country are involved in the deliberations of this Congress. May every man dare to do so freely, and of record of doing so conscientiously. Let us pray, through Jesus Christ: Amen.

POSTAL SERVICE IN CALIFORNIA.

Mr. McDONALD, (dem.) of Cal., reported from the Committee on Post Office, a bill making provision for postal service in California, and in Oregon and Washington Territories.

THE CONNECTICUT ANTI NEBRASKA RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. PEABY, (dem.) of Conn., presented resolutions from the Connecticut Legislature against the Nebraska Bill.

THE NEBRASKA BILL.

Mr. RICHARDSON, (dem.) of Ill., moved the suspension of the rules for the purpose of going into Committee of Whole on the Nebraska Bill.

Mr. WHEELER, (dem.) of N. Y., asked leave to offer the following resolution—

Resolved, That the President be requested to furnish this House with the bills proposed to be introduced under his possession, or under his control, in relation to the alienation of territory, and the rights of the States in its disposal, or the authorities of Athens, in that kingdom, upon the rights of Dr. King, formerly the American consul; and of the Government of Athens, or elected there, in relation thereto.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM, (dem.) of N. C., objected.

Mr. WHEELER moved suspension of the rules.

The SPEAKER denied that question on Mr. Richardson's motion must be put first.

Mr. DEAN, (dem.) of N. Y., demanded the yeas and nays.

The question was decided in the affirmative—105 against 0. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Nebraska Bill.

Mr. STEPHENS, (whig) of Ga.—I move to strike out the enacting clause, I do this to cut off all amendments, and to have the bill reported to the House and voted upon. (Sensation and expressions of dissent.) In deference of this motion I give the 10th rule—"A motion to strike out the enacting words of a bill shall have the force of a concurrent resolution, and if carried shall be considered equivalent to its rejection." Now, let the committee strike out the enacting clause of this bill, and the friends of the bill will come to the House and have further amendments. When we get into the House the question will be on agreeing to the report. The friends of the bill will vote down the motion—then we will have the bill to vote on.

VOICES—"That's it!—Good!"—"Go ahead."

It will then be in order for the chairman of the Committee on Territories to move the bill as an amendment, which all of us want to vote on. The friends of the bill, standing together, will be brought to vote directly on the question whether they will accept of the continuous motions to amend. I make this motion because it is time we were voting on the bill. Its friends will vote to carry it to the House and have in the House, and throughout the country. The mind of every man, I doubt not, is made up—already we have had no motions to amend the important features.

Mr. STEPHENS, (whig) of Ga., interrupted the gentleman, raising the question that his motion was not in order, because they could not go back to the enacting clause.

The CHAIRMAN overruled his point, saying the rule was especially accepted for that purpose.

Mr. STEPHENS.—It is in order.—No doubt of that. Does the gentleman contemplate that, if his motion prevail, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Richardson) shall move, and the House order the previous question to be brought?

Mr. STEPHENS.—It is to bring the House to vote directly on Mr. Richardson's substitute, and it is the object of my motion to prevent the bill from coming forward, and to go on and attend to other matters.

Mr. CHANDLER, (whig) of Pa.—This is one of those cases where it takes five minutes for defeat.

The CHAIRMAN—I express.

Mr. CHANDLER—It is my regret at this wicked hour that I am compelled with a point of order, which the Chairman overruled.

Mr. CHANDLER resumed—I merely rose to protest solemnly against this extraordinary gag, to be applied to the bill, and to say that while it is possible the majority may thus ride roughshod over me, yet Mr. PIERCE, (whig) of Ky., (interrupting) "I exceedingly regret that you have done this. It is a very improper proceeding, not debatable. (Much excitement and confusion during these proceedings.)"

Mr. CHANDLER.—I am satisfied that any one of the majority must dislike such a question—it must be painful to start a point of this kind here, whatever ruling may be made on the question of order. The friends of the bill will vote down the motion. The friends of the country, and the rules which the House has solemnly adopted for its regulation and government. We will vote to carry the bill to the House, and we who have proved a growing majority—while they have read day by day in the organs of this administration, not merely invitations to come over, against us, but intimations that our influence would be lost, and that we were losing their influence in the executive department; and while we have thus seen ourselves threatened, if not actually assailed, by the Executive, we have been not resorted to any notice of defeating the bill which is not recognized by the constitution of the country, and by the rules of the House.

Mr. ORR, (dem.) of S. C., rose and said something, lost in vociferous cries of "Order."

Mr. CHANDLER—I am satisfied the order indicated is to suspend the gentleman from speaking. Having driven the minority from five minute debates, they are deprived of that privilege.

Mr. GREENBANK, (whig) of Mo., referred to the note to 10th rule, as quoted by Stephens, to show the practice of the House was contrary to what that gentleman proposed. He said the majority were thus to be violated. Loud calls to order.

The CHAIRMAN denied the motion to strike out in order? Does the gentleman take an appeal?

Mr. CHANDLER.—But I wished to show what the practice of the House is.

Mr. ROBERTS, (dem.) of N. C.—I desire to state to the House that I wish to introduce an amendment, I desire to introduce an amendment to the bill.

The CHAIRMAN—Will the committee permit the gentleman to make a statement? (Hearings cries of "No, No.")

Mr. ROBERTS.—It is not only due to myself but my constituents, who expect me to introduce an amendment in the Senate bill.

Mr. DUNCAN, (whig) of Mass., likewise wished to offer an amendment to the bill, and the Clerk announced Mr. EVANS moved the committee rise. Negatives, 52 against 104.

The affirmative vote on striking out the enacting clause of the bill was taken amid great excitement, during which Mr. EVANS said—"Let the minority refuse to vote, and thus let the majority win a quarrelsome victory by revolution."

Mrs. FARRIS, (dem.) of Mo., and SISK, (whig) of N. Y., called attention to the same effect, and were loudly called to order.

The CHAIRMAN denied the question carried, the minority not having voted.

Mr. EVANS.—"Question?"—"Question, question?"

The CHAIRMAN said—Those in the opposition will now pass between the tellers.

Mr. EVANS, (dem.) of Ohio—About one will pass between the tellers, and he uttered his action to the words; however, twenty-one others followed his example.

The affirmative vote on striking out the enacting clause was taken—yeas 105 against 22—the enacting clause was struck out.

On motion of Mr. RICHARDSON, the committee rose—yeas 105, nays only 22—the minority generally refusing to vote.

The SPEAKER resumed the chair, when Mr. ORR moved to the House the action of the committee.

Mr. WARREN, of N. C., moved that the bill and amendments be laid on the table.

Mr. EVANS moved the question that less than a quorum of the committee could not rise and report, as in this case.

The SPEAKER said he had no official knowledge of the fact.

Mr. IRAN moved that the House adjourn, and demanded the yeas and nays.

Mr. EVANS, (dem.) of Ohio, moved the order, saying that Mr. Penn did not move for that purpose, but for a question of order.

Mr. DAVIS, (dem.) of Va., called Mr. Hamilton to order.

The SPEAKER reminded the gentleman that he had recognized Mr. Richardson as entitled to the floor.

Mr. EVANS, (dem.) of Ohio, moved the point of order as to the correctness of the decision of the Committee of the Whole on the bill.

The SPEAKER decided that it was right according to the 10th rule.

Mr. MERRIAM, (whig) of Vt., rose to a question of privilege, in effect that they had a right to five minute debates, and that the majority were thus to be violated. They had been cut off by the overpowering majority.

The SPEAKER said he could not decide as to the pro-

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